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1731-

Attorney Docket No. SPO-594  
PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: ) Group Art Unit: 1731  
SEKINO; USHIODA; FUJINAMI; ) Examiner: C. FIORILLA  
IWAMOTO )  
Serial No. 09/831,709 )  
Filed: May 14, 2001 )

For: **METHOD OF PREPARING A CERAMIC ARTIFICIAL CROWN AND A  
PREPARATION KIT USED THEREFOR**

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**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

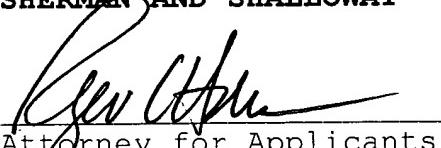
Sir:

Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is the following:

- (1) Filing Receipt;
- (2) Transmittal Letter;
- (3) Response to Office Action; and
- (4) Appendices A, B, and C.

Respectfully submitted,

**SHERMAN AND SHALLOWAY**

  
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RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action having a mailing date of April 24, 2003, with a three month shortened statutory period to respond set to expire on July 24, 2003. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

In view of the following remarks and claim amendments, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections and allow all claims as presently claimed in this application.